

Voting Equipment Selection Committee
April 1, 2004
Minutes

Committee Members in Attendance:

Val Oveson, State CIO
Amy Naccarato, Director of Elections
Ray Palmer, Governor's Office IT
LuAnn Adams, Box Elder County Clerk
Sherrie Swensen, Salt Lake County Clerk
Linda Lunceford, Weber County Clerk
Robert Pero, Carbon County Clerk
David Yardley, Iron County Clerk
Mark Langston, Davis County IT
Neil Peterson, Utah County IT
Steve Harmsen, Salt Lake County Council
Liz McCoy, Disability Law Center
Bill Gibson, Division of Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired
Thom Roberts, Attorney General's Office

Absent:

Debbie Gundersen, Office of State Purchasing

I. Welcome

The Committee was called to order by Val Oveson at 1:10 p.m.

II. Work time

The group followed up on issues from the last Committee meeting. Per Committee request, Amy Naccarato emailed the HAVA definition of a voting system to Committee members. This definition was incorporated into the text of the Utah RFP. The judgment criteria introduced by Ray Palmer in the March 25 meeting were also incorporated into the document.

The Committee noted that Michael Barnes from the Georgia Secretary of State's Office will speak at the April 15 Committee Meeting. The public hearing will be held that evening from 5:30 to 7:30 that evening.

Committee members reviewed modifications to the text of the RFP which were made during the last meeting. The text also reflected any changes which were suggested by Committee members and submitted to Amy prior to March 31, 2004.

Ray Palmer initiated a discussion regarding what might be the appropriate level of specificity for system qualification criteria in an RFP. The group debated the option of developing a more open RFP which might include broad selection criteria. The Committee might initially release a more simple and broad RFP and then spend more time researching equipment and determining which systems were best qualified.

After some discussion, Val Oveson posed two questions to the group for a vote. The group was asked if they wished to move away from the current process of developing the Utah RFP by making line by line modifications to the Georgia RFP. The majority of the Committee favored working to develop a broad RFP.

The Committee was then asked if they would like to keep the Georgia RFP as a template for the Utah RFP. The majority of the group wished to keep working with the Georgia outline for the Utah RFP. The group then opted by majority to engage in a discussion of "higher level" issues.

There was a group discussion regarding the issue of funding for equipment. The group discussed the possibility of "opting out" of the Statewide purchase of electronic voting equipment. Val Oveson asked committee members if they wished to make a recommendation back to the State Plan Committee regarding funding issues as it was that committee that formalized the State HAVA budget. Members of the Voting Equipment Selection Committee chose to move forward in their discussion of voting equipment.

Committee members were asked to answer to the question "What do we want in a voting system?" Issues the group wished to consider in selecting equipment included:

- 1,3 A single uniform system
- 1,3 Qualifies for Federal funding
- 1,2 Offers for privacy for all voters
- 3 Cost effective
- 1,2,3 Accessible for all voters
- 1,2,3 A system which meets HAVA mandates
- 1,3 A system which will inspire public confidence
- 3 A secure and reliable system
- 2 Consideration of State law
- 2 A system which is certified or certifiable
- 3 System durability and required maintenance
- 3 Size and weight of equipment
- 3 Flexibility of equipment
- 2 Audit capabilities
- 2 Issues of system verification

Each of these issues was assigned a number to correspond with one or more of the following criteria categories:

1. Purpose criteria
2. Committee mandated selection criteria
3. Judgment criteria

Committee members will further consider the voting equipment issues and more fully develop each of these three criteria.

The meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.